

22 July 1955

CONCEPT OF ORGANIZATION AND DELINEATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Director of CIA - Chief of Staff, USAF: The primary responsibility at this level shall be the formulation of broad policy, to determine the implications of the project's operation on national and international policy, and to make recommendations to higher authority accordingly. Further, it shall be their joint responsibility to resolve differences that may arise at lower staff and operating levels.

2. CIA Project Director - Chief, Air Staff Task Force: The primary responsibility at this level shall be the development and execution of all activities concerning the project within their own organizations; the free exchange of information; the detailed planning within their own organizations; the resolution of differences that may arise at lower echelons; and to report progress and make recommendations to their respective chiefs.

3. Elements of Organization: Subject to policy guidance to be developed and furnished as indicated above, the functions of the several elements engaged in the conduct of operations will be as follows:

a. The joint Project Headquarters will be responsible for any continued research and development, operational planning, and the direction and control of actual operations.

b. The Air Staff Task Force shall be responsible for implementing plans approved by the Project Director and the Chief of the Task Force. Generally its function will be to arrange for Air Force support of project activities which can appropriately be furnished through staff channels or by commands other than the Strategic Air Command. Appropriate Directors of the Air Staff will designate points of contact within their offices. Officers so designated will assist the Task Force as required.

c. All military personnel assigned to the project on permanent status shall be carried on the rolls of a newly activated support squadron in accordance with current procedures. Either the Deputy Project Director (USAF) or the Chief of Operations and Training Division (USAF) or a third officer could be the commander of this administrative squadron.

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d. Commander, SAC, will be assigned primary responsibility for Air Force activities in support of the Project. He will form a new subordinate headquarters designated the XX Air Division which will be manned by him from resources available to him. Requirements for certain types of personnel and equipment not under his control will be stated to Headquarters, USAF (the Air Staff Task Force) and will be met from other resources as stated in paragraph 3.b. above.

4. Field Operations: A special facility to be used for the testing of materiel and the final training of personnel has already been activated. It is anticipated that when the maximum capability contemplated in this operation has been achieved, operations will be in progress simultaneously from three overseas bases.

a. The joint Project Headquarters will establish operational units to be stationed at the overseas bases. These units will be composed mainly of specialized civilian technical personnel, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Each unit will also include, however, about one dozen enlisted men and six or eight Air Force Officers to serve as an operational staff, one of whom shall be the commander of the unit. Operational units will remain under the direct control of the joint Project Headquarters.

b. Commander, SAC, will establish overseas units of the XX Air Division controlled by him through the Commander, XX Air Division, to perform supporting functions as required by the Project Headquarters and agreed by Commander, SAC.

c. Each such operational unit will depend upon the corresponding unit of the XX Air Division for support. The normal line of command on matters concerning the scale and character of Air Force support shall be through the XX Air Division and the Commander, SAC. The normal line of command for purely operational decisions shall be direct to the Project Headquarters.

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